

ARE SOON RECAPTURED A DELIGHTFUL BANQUET

Four Negroes, Who Had Escaped From Occoquan, Taken in Custody at the Highway Bridge.

Four prisoners who escaped from the Occoquan workhouse were speedily captured last night through the clever work of Ralph Whittaker, son of Supt. W. H. Whittaker, of that institution. The men were taken into custody within a few hours after their escape at the south end of the Potomac bridge that crosses the District of Columbia by young Whittaker and several of his companions.

Whittaker was in Washington on business yesterday when his father informed him by telephone that five of the prisoners recently brought from Leavenworth, Kan., to work on the new reformatory had escaped. He marshaled several friends and went to the highway and railroad bridges, that span the river. After an hour's wait, four of the men showed up, were placed under arrest by Whittaker, who is his father's deputy, and brought to the police headquarters in handcuffs. They were later locked up at the First precinct.

The appearance of Whittaker with his prisoners was the first notice the Washington police had of their escape. They have now started a vigorous lookout for the fifth man. All of the prisoners are colored. They said they had "hopped a freight" from Occoquan to the Virginia yards thence they walked to the bridge with the intention of coming into the District.

They were followed from the workhouse by three posses of armed guards, who will take them back to Occoquan tomorrow.

The negroes would not tell where the fifth member of their party left them.

DEMOCRATS MAY SEEK PROBE.

City Committee to Discuss Investigation Today.

Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 24.—It was learned here today that following an investigation by Democratic leaders in this city, a Congressional probe of alleged election abuses will be requested following a meeting of the Democratic city committee called for today.

Edgar W. Link, chairman of the city committee and the committee's legal counsel declared yesterday that no move would be made until after all the reports made by Democratic workers had been digested.

The Federal investigation, if requested, will be asked for on the ground that Democratic Congressional candidates and Democratic Presidential electors did not receive credit for thousands of votes cast in their favor at the recent election. The "assistance to voters" provision of the election law is severely criticized by the Democrats.

THE ADAMSON LAW.

Announcing that the Southern Railway System lines are asking the courts to interpret the Adamson law pending an attempt to enforce its provisions, Mr. Fairfax Harrison said: "There is such an irreconcilable difference between the interpretation of the law upon which the lawyers agree and that the men want that it is apparent that a judicial interpretation and clarification of the law is necessary in the interest of all concerned. Quite frankly, we are now unable to apply the law because we do not know what it means. We know what the men want, but the lawyers say the law does not give them that but gives them something else which every railroad manager knows they do not want. The men are naturally disappointed that the question is not settled, and so are the managers, but we must all have patience and good temper and try to avoid passing while we grope our way out of the fog."

Married.

November 22, 1916, by Rev. Dr. John Lee Allison, Elijah L. Ramey and Mary A. Goodrich.

Oyster season opens at the Rammel Cafe, North Royal Street.

Gazette, one Month by Mail .. 25c

Members of J. R. N. Curtin Memorial Baraca Class and Guests Dine 'Mid Flowers and Music.

The third annual banquet of the J. R. N. Curtin Memorial Baraca class of the First Baptist church, held in the Westminster building last evening, is pronounced the most enjoyable in the history of the organization. One hundred and fifteen sat down to the handsomely decorated tables.

The class presented an impressive appearance as the members marched into the banquet hall to the strains of sweet music provided by Prof. Faggett's orchestra. The talkers fairly groaned beneath the weight of the splendidly prepared feast which was served in a most efficient manner by a bevy of charming ladies. Huge bouquets of carnations and green smilax lent a touch of color which completed the beauty of the scene.

Seated at the table of honor together with the officers of the class and school were the guests of the occasion, Hon. C. C. Carlin, Judge L. C. Barley, Hon. R. C. L. Moncure, Hon. J. R. Caton, A. D. Brockett, and Dr. Llewellyn Powell.

The first speaker, Hon. C. C. Carlin, was introduced by the toastmaster as one who needed no introduction to an Alexandria audience, for as he had watched the boys grow into manhood they had watched him grow in fame. Mr. Carlin spoke in his usual happy style and gave to his listeners words of inspiration as American citizens to do what lay in their power to fulfill the purpose of their spiritual leader and bring about peace on earth and good will to men. He said: "The progress of man is slow, slower than that of any other animal, because man has a mind, and because there are many men of many minds. It has required centuries to bring man to his present state of civilization for civilization has progressed only as Christianity has progressed. Civilization has never gone on before but has ever gone on side by side as Christianity has advanced. The greatness and power of our own country has been preserved by and only by Divine providence. We are the hope of the world, a christian nation and lovers of peace. No people, no church and no land is greater than the thing for which it stands. Ours is the one bright star whose brilliancy is watched by the twenty millions of souls in the trenches, and wherever there is a soul, their eye is ever turned to us, which demonstrates that it is the one duty of the hour for us to carry out the logical purpose of our Saviour to help bring peace on earth and good will to men."

Following Mr. Carlin, Mr. Moncure spoke of our country's past, present and future, contrasting our land of freedom in matters civil and religious, with those who must bow to the will of their ruler, and bringing to memory deeds of valor of some of our great statesmen, pointing with pride to those whom our own Virginia had produced. Judge Barley spoke of his Bible class, which has grown at each meeting and expressed the hope that in another year he would not be trying to equal in numbers the class before him, the largest Bible class in the city, but would have them making the fight of their lives trying to catch up with his class.

The program was given as published in the Gazette on Wednesday. After the singing of "God be with you till we meet again," Rev. Dr. E. B. Jackson dismissed the assembly with prayer. All expressed themselves as having had a most enjoyable evening.

HIRAM S. MAXIM DEAD.

Famous Inventor Expires in London. After Brief Illness.

London, Nov. 24.—Sir Hiram Stevens Maxim, inventor of cordite and the automatic firearms, died here at 2.30 a. m. today.

Sir Hiram had been reported as seriously ill at his home here for several days. He was seventy-six years of age.

Norfolk Oysters at the Rammel Cafe, North Royal Street.

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Alexandria City and Suburbs

No cases were on the docket of the Police Court this morning.

Mr. Edward Louis Fox, after an eight days' visit to Alexandria, left last night for his home in Tucson, Arizona.

"Mr. Bob," a two-act comedy, will be presented by members of the High school on the evening of Dec. 6th in the Westminster building for the benefit of the Woman's Association of the order of Maccabees.

The First Baptist church trustees have asked for bids for remodeling the brick dwelling at the southwest corner of Columbus and Cameron streets, which was recently purchased by the church for a parsonage. As soon as necessary repairs and alterations have been made Rev. Dr. Eugene B. Jackson, the pastor of the church, will move his family there.

Master Esmond Davis, jr., celebrated his first birthday with a party to a number of his little friends yesterday afternoon, at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Esmond E. Davis, in The Wagar. The little ones invited were Misses Joyce Sullivan, Margaret Nelson, Theresa Carter, Helen Carter, Teckla Dreifus, Mary Davis, Violet Davis, Winnie Davis, Nellie Cockrell, Lillian Humphries and Frances Trenary, Masters Russell Wells, Cecil Cockrell, Harry Humphries Jack Trenary and R. Lash.

The Board of Governors of the Anne Lee Memorial Home for the Aged have received 500 copies of Rev. Gypsy Smith's famous lecture, "From a Gypsy tent to the pulpit," and will dispose of them for the benefit of the Home. The books were received yesterday and are a gift to the Home from Mr. Smith. They can be procured from any member of the board and undoubtedly will sell rapidly. Those who were fortunate enough to hear Mr. Smith deliver his lecture on the subject will no doubt enjoy it and those who could not gain admittance to the tent will now have the opportunity of reading the interesting story. The book was written by Rev. Gypsy Smith, sr.

TO PASS BRIDGE PLANS.

Fine Arts Men Discussed Revisions Today in New York.

Revised plans for the construction of the Key Bridge, which is to replace the condemned Aqueduct Bridge across the Potomac River at Georgetown, were submitted for approval today to the National Commission of Fine Arts at a meeting held in New York.

According to the modifications made by Col. C. A. F. Flagler, Corps of Engineers, the entire structure will be re-enforced concrete and will cross the river at a high elevation in five parabolic ribbed arches, with smaller arches on the shore approaches. The middle arch will have a span of 244 feet. The length of the bridge from shore to shore will be about 1,050 feet. The width will be 60 feet, and a clearance of 75 feet above the water will be allowed under the middle span.

The new structure will be located just east of the present Aqueduct Bridge, and its Washington end will begin just west of 35th street, and thence by a curved tangent to the point of exit at 34th and M streets. The Virginia side of the bridge will be located near the station of the Washington, Arlington and Falls Church Railway.

Another change in the original plan is the provision for two decks in the bridge in order to separate the trolley traffic from commercial and pleasure traffic.

Southern Takes no Part

Danville, Ky., Nov. 23.—In discussing the proposals for the greater federalization of the regulation of the Railways which have been submitted to the Newlands Joint Committee now in session in Washington, Mr. Fairfax Harrison said yesterday that the lines of the Southern Railway system are taking no part in urging such proposals upon Congress.

Genuine Lynnhaven Bay Oysters, on half shell, steamed or in measure, Jacob Brill foot of King St. 246-11

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Watkins, have been the guests this week of Mrs. Watkins' parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Wenrich, at their home in Manassas.

The Alexandria Assembly will give their first dance of the season tonight in the auditorium of the Elks' Home, in Prince street. These dances are always well attended and among the most enjoyable affairs of the social season.

Alice, widow of James M. Miffleton, died yesterday afternoon at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George M. Reynolds in Braddock. She was taken ill day before yesterday. Heart trouble is given as the cause of death. Mrs. Reynolds is the only surviving child. The funeral will occur on Sunday at 2 o'clock at the home, Rev. Edgar Carpenter officiating.

Miss Nellie Selden Uhler entertained informally last night, at her home on north Washington street, in honor of her house guest, Miss Helen Young, of Norfolk. Those present were Miss Lucy Uhler, Miss Clarence Snowden, Miss Mary Snowden, Miss Elizabeth Dulany Herbert, Mr. and Mrs. Henry O'Bannon Cooper, Mr. John B. Barrett, Mr. Howell Thomas, Mr. Robert Price, Dr. Vivian P. Berry and Mr. Richard M. Chichester.

Miss Edna Groves entertained at a most enjoyable party yesterday afternoon, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Groves, 509 S. Henry street, in honor of her eleventh birthday. Miss Elsie Hamersley and Mr. Richard Owens entertained the young people with a number of vocal and instrumental solos. Little Miss Groves received a number of pretty presents. Among those present were Misses Hilda Ezrine, Elizabeth Igou, Margaret Stoenner, Virginia Jones, Helen Lyons, Vera Dobson, Emily Chauncey, Helen Moore, Virginia Scott, Margaret Moore, Anna Belle Kaufman, Mary Fones, Grace Kicherer, Mary Kicherer, Laura McHenry, Edith Thompson, Nellie Green, Marion Chilcott, and Virginia Jennier, Masters Abner Beales, Colton Moore, Leo Lyons, John Chauncey and Melvin Lyons.

2,000 WORDS IN MESSAGE

President Emphasizes Uncompleted Legislation on Railroads as Most Pressing Problem.

President Wilson's annual message to Congress, now in the printer's hands, contains about 2,000 words, and is among the shortest documents of its kind on record. It points out that the reports of the several government departments will be made before Congress separately, and that, therefore, their details are not discussed.

The President emphasizes the uncompleted legislation on railroads suggested by him at the last session to meet the threatened railroad strike, as the most pressing problem facing Congress. He then goes on to a general discussion of other Democratic problems.

BIDS ON SERUMS

State Board of Health to Hear Manufacturers on Friday for Year's Award

Richmond, Va., Nov. 24.—The State Board of Health will open bids on Friday, November 24th at 10:30 a. m. for the supply of typhoid, smallpox and whooping cough vaccines and diphtheria and tetanus antitoxin for 1917. Under the terms of the proposals, which have been sent manufacturers by the board, the State Board of Health is to act, as in the past merely as the distributor of these supplies at wholesale prices, all collections, etc., being made by the manufacturer.

Death Notice

On Thursday, November 23, 1916, at 4:30 p. m., at her residence in Braddock, Alexandria, Va. Mrs. ALICE MIFFLETON, widow of the late James Miffleton, and mother of Mrs. Geo. M. Reynolds. Funeral Sunday November 26, at 2 o'clock from her late residence.

Norfolk Oysters at the Rammel Cafe, N. Royal Street.

A cottage prayer meeting was held last night at the home of Mr. Walter Padgett, 212 south Fairfax street. Mr. Myers was the leader.

Doctor S. B. Moore has returned from Rochester, Minn., where he attended the Mayo Clinic. The doctor combined a hunt with his visit, and brought home a fine buck deer.

The Woman's Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers will give an oyster supper from 5:30 to 10:30 this evening in the Young Peoples' Building, in south Washington street.

The Alexandria Free Kindergarten Association will give a musical and dramatic entertainment in the Westminster Building Friday evening, December 8. The rehearsals for this affair have been in progress for several weeks and it promises to be a complete success.

At the Wednesday afternoon Dancing class, Miss Katherine Carroll Waller and Miss Christina McArthur Kemper, directors, in the contest on step, the prize was awarded to Miss Gladys Aitchison dancing with Master McKnew Aitchison. These little ones are among the most beautiful dancers in the city and their exhibition hesitation waltz was among the feature dances at the final ball last spring.

The music of the opera "The Girl and the Soldier," is proving to be tuneful and catchy, and pupils of Lee school can be heard going along the street humming the airs, the most popular so far being the song "Why Can't a Girl be a Soldier?" Another catchy tune is that of "Trading Smiles," and the habit of trading smiles is spreading through the school. Rapid progress is being made, the bright young minds grasping the various movements and executing them with dash and precision. At the Washington school the boys are struggling with their voices endeavoring to bring them under control, and are succeeding with the songs, "About Face" and "Attention All." The boys' strong point is their marching. The production promises to be popular.

DEMOCRATS HOPEFUL

Believe They Will Organize Next House of Representatives.

The fight for the control of the next House is now turning in favor of the Democrats, and the belief is becoming stronger in Washington every day that Speaker Clark will be re-elected and the Democrats will organize the House and control the committees.

Based upon official and complete unofficial counts, received in Washington, the next House at the present time stands 214 Republicans, 213 Democrats, six scattering and two in doubt. The official count, during the past week, has reduced the claims of the Republicans from 217 to 214, they having lost the Tenth North Carolina District, the thirtieth Pennsylvania District and apparently the Thirty-second Pennsylvania District. The two districts in doubt are the Second Michigan and the Third New Jersey, and the Democrats are now hopeful of capturing these two seats.

News received here today shows the election of Representative Clyde Kelly, Progressive Democrat, in the Thirtieth Pennsylvania. Mr. Kelly was a Progressive in the Sixty-third Congress and supported all of Wilson's progressive policies. In the last election he ran as a Progressive Democrat and was supported by the Democrats. While classed as a Progressive, the Democratic leaders declare he is certain to vote with them on the organization of the House. Guy E. Campbell, Democrat, also has a lead of 200 over Representative Barchfeld, Republican, in the Thirty-second Pennsylvania District.

The Democratic confidence in their ability to organize the next House is based upon assurances that five of the six independents will co-operate with them, which will give them a clear majority. Among the votes counted upon by the Democrats are those of London, Socialist, and Randall, Prohibitionist.

FEDERAL CLERKS' PAY ALLIES STILL ADVANCE

Efforts to Interest President Wilson in Movement for Increased Salaries of Employees.

Federal clerks many of whom are Alexandrians will make a determined effort to enlist President Wilson in their fight for higher wages. A petition urging incorporation in his annual message of a recommendation for a blanket increase in wages for Government employees was advocated at a meeting of the War Department branch of the Federal Employees' Union last night.

Officials and members of the clerks' unions are active in getting signatures, and are confident that they will have the petition in the White House in a short time.

The War Department branch last night decided to lay the principal stress of their fight for increased wages on the high cost of living. Although changes in the apportionment, classification, retirement, and many other systems, will be urged, they will be secondary.

With the cost of food and clothing double, and in many instances triple, what it was in 1854, the United States Government pays its employees on the average \$100 less now per year than it did sixty-two years ago.

These figures are authoritative, coming from no less source than Ethelbert Steuart, chief clerk of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor, and an authority on the subject.

How prices have advanced are also shown authoritatively by figures prepared by Mr. Steuart.

VIRGINIA NEWS

Paragraphs Picked Up Here and There Throughout the State.

An opinion of great interest to every city in the Commonwealth was handed down yesterday by Judge Harrison, president of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, in the case of the City of Richmond against the Drew-Hughes Company, appeal from the Hastings court of Richmond. The opinion holds that the city of Richmond cannot assess the capital employed by merchants in business at the rate of \$1.10 on the \$100, and must be content with a tax of 30 cents on the \$100. The Supreme Court held that such capital should not be subject to State taxation on the ad valorem basis so long as the State continues to tax merchants with a license. The city of Richmond will have a budget deficit of about \$150,000 as a result of the decision.

Russell Smith, a farmer of Pittsylvania county, was acquitted Wednesday of shooting and severely wounding John Bolling, a neighbor, in an affray which was the outcome of a quarrel started by their wives. Mrs. Smith, it is said, accused Mrs. Bolling of stealing eggs. Mrs. Bolling said that Mrs. Smith had stolen her chickens. Both women were quarreling when the husbands came home and each man took the part of his wife. Smith got a shotgun and after ordering Bolling to vacate his premises, it is alleged, shot him through the stomach.

Mr. C. H. Ford, of Fairfax county, deputy collector of income taxes in the office of Collector R. C. L. Moncure at Richmond, has been made inspector of income tax work and transferred to the revenue agent's office at Pittsburg. Mr. Ford is a native of Clifton and, until his appointment to the revenue service about two years ago, was a prominent business man in that neighborhood. He is a cousin of Col. Joseph E. Willard, U. S. Ambassador to the Court of Spain, at Madrid.

Well dressed, but bearing no identification marks further than a Masonic ring engraved with initials, the body of a white man was found on the bench at Fisherman Island, located between Capes Henry and Charles, Tuesday by men from the Cape Charles Quarantine Station. The ring bore the inscription "W. C. McN., June 15, 1915." The body looked to be that of a man sixty or sixty-five years of age. He wore a Prince Albert coat.

Norfolk Fried Oysters at the Hotel Rammel

French Troops Make Gains West of Macedonia City—Italians Reach Nezapoli.

Paris, Nov. 24.—Further progress of the allies west of Monastir was announced in the French official statement today. The battle north-east of the Macedonian city is continuing. Three Italian troops under General Sarrai are also advancing having reached Nezapoli.

Success of a French surprise attack on a German trench near Hilsenheim, in Alsace, was announced in today's official statement. A number of Germans were captured.

The statement detailed a lively cannonading in the region of Sailly-Saillies, and recorded the destruction of five German aeroplanes in a series of forty air fights.

Saloniki, Nov. 24.—Nearly 200 spare miles of Serbia have been reconquered from the Teutons in the allies' advance around Monastir, according to the Serbian official statement today.

Violent fighting occurred Wednesday along the whole front north and west and east of Monastir, the allies fighting against new German forces re-enforcing the defeated German-Bulgarian army. The allied advance northward continues, counter-attacks being repulsed.

NEW YORK MAY SELL COAL

Mayor Mitchell, of New York, Plans Drastic Step to Help Poor.

New York, Nov. 24.—Mayor Mitchell today threatened to establish a municipal coal station for the people of New York unless coal dealers refrain from charging exorbitant prices for fuel.

The mayor held a conference with seven of the biggest coal dealers in the city after which he issued a statement. The statement declares that financial support for the plan had been assured and that coal would be purchased through a committee of citizens. If the plan goes into effect the fuel will be taken to various points and there distributed to small purchasers by wagons of the street cleaning department.

The aim of the mayor is to protect the poor of the East Side where coal is usually bought by the pail. By purchasing in small quantities East Side dealers some times get as much as \$30 for coal in the winter.

The plan is the most radical ever proposed for the relief of the city's poor.

FUNERAL OF BISHOP WILSON.

Conducted From Trinity Church, Baltimore, Which He Founded Fifty-One Years Ago.

Baltimore, Md., Nov. 24.—The funeral services for Bishop Alpheus Waters Wilson, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, were held yesterday at Trinity Church, which he founded 51 years ago, and of which he was the first pastor. Bishop Hendrix, of Kansas City, presided; assisted by Bishops Earl Cranston, W. F. McDowell and Luther B. Wilson of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The services were attended by the Maryland Lodge of Masons, of which Bishop Wilson was the last surviving charter member, and many clergymen. Burial was in Loudoun Park Cemetery.

Hospital Ship Sunk.

London, Nov. 24.—The British hospital ship Braemar Castle, homeward bound from Saloniki to Malta, was sunk by a mine or torpedo in Mykonos channel by a mine or torpedo. Official channel of the Aegean sea, an admiralty announcement stated today. The admiralty states all aboard were saved.

Mrs. Ada P. Bowers, as administratrix of F. R. Bowers, deceased, has entered an action against the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, claiming damages in the sum of \$25,000. This suit recalls the death of Fireman Forest R. Bowers on Tuesday night, July 25, at Greenwood, Albemarle county, when an eastbound passenger train was derailed at the mouth of a tunnel.

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